

# **IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                             |   |                               |                         |   |                |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------|
| <b>Appl. No.</b>            | : | 10/575,334                    | <b>Confirmation No.</b> | : | 3627           |
| <b>Applicant(s)</b>         | : | Peter Marten Van der Horst    | <b>Art Unit</b>         | : | 1796           |
| <b>Filed</b>                | : | May 22, 2006                  | <b>Examiner</b>         | : | Atnaf S Admasu |
| <b>Title</b>                | : | Use of CMC in Drilling Fluids |                         |   |                |
| <b>Customer No.</b> : 00109 |   |                               |                         |   |                |

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **Submission with an RCE**

In response to the Office Action dated November 12, 2009, please amend the claims as detailed hereinafter and reconsider the rejection in view of the arguments presented hereinafter.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.

To the extent necessary to preserve pendency, the Director is respectfully requested to extend the period for filing a reply in the above identified application. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 041512.